

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph [0093] with the following amended paragraph:

The equalizer 2120 resets the data path's jitter budget by reshaping and retiming the data to remove channel noise from sources such as inter-symbol interference. The equalizer 2120 is coupled to receive signals representing coefficients from a coefficient module 2110 and a clock signal from a CDR 2130. The equalizer 2120 is preferably an adaptive equalizer that adapts to channel conditions such as changing temperature, but in other embodiments, the equalizer 2120 may be a passive equalizer. Other embodiments of equalizers are disclosed in U.S. Patent Application No. 10/288,324, "System and Method for Reducing Interference in an Optical Data Stream," by Thomas J. Lenosky et al., filed on November 5, 2002; U.S. Patent Application No. 60/423,970, "System and Method for Reducing Interference in an Optical Data Stream Using Multiple Selectable Equalizers," by Thomas J. Lenosky et al. filed on November 5, 2002; and U.S. Patent Application No. [\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_,]10/419,023, "Method and Apparatus For Reducing Interference in an Optical Data Stream Using Data-Independent Equalization" by Thomas J. Lenosky et al., filed April 17, 2003; all of which are herein incorporated by reference. The equalizer 2120 may comprise a feed forward filter having a finite impulse response, a DFE ('Decision Feedback Equalizer'), or the like, either alone or in combination. The output of the equalizer 2120 may be analog or digital, depending on the implementation. Further embodiments of the equalizer 2120 are discussed below. The coefficient module 2110 provides coefficients to the equalizer 2120 by evaluating channel effects on the data. The coefficient module 2110 is coupled to receive the data from the buffer 2105a and send the coefficient signal to the equalizer 2120. The coefficient module 2110 may be implemented in hardware, software, or firmware. Further embodiments of the coefficient module 2110 are discussed below.